

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 2, 4 and 8 and canceled claim 5 without prejudice. Essentially, Applicant has added the limitations of claim 5 to each of claims 2 and 8. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 5/(2, 8), while being objected to, contains allowable subject matter and could be put in condition for allowance if independent claims resulted which included all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claims 2 and 8 to be independent claims containing all of the limitations of claim 2 and 5 and claim 8 and 5. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 and 8 are now allowable. In addition, the remaining claims 3, 4, 5 and 7 depend directly or indirectly from the allowed claims 2 and 8 and are all now also allowable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-4 and 6-8 are all allowable and Applicant accepts these allowed claims.

Applicant further respectfully and retroactively requests a two month extension of time so as to respond to the Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account No. 11-1445 in the sum of \$210.00 as the fee.

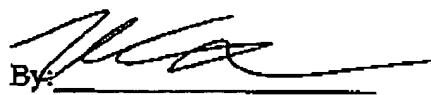
In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on February 12, 2004.

William L. Androlia

Name

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